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For Immediate Release

Excise Officers Ticket 17 People, Cite Liquor Store in South Bend

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (Aug. 31) – Indiana State Excise Police officers ticketed 17 people and cited one liquor store in South Bend this weekend.

Three minors were ticketed for illegal possession, consumption or transportation of alcohol. Two adults were charged with furnishing alcohol to minors.

Excise officers also issued 13 traffic tickets, including two for open container violations.

Gerardo Moctezuma-Juarez 29, of South Bend, was jailed on a deportation warrant related to the use of fraudulent documentation. Juarez's warrant was discovered after he was stopped by excise officers for running a red traffic light at LaSalle and Hill in South Bend.

Belmont Beverage, 1621 South Bend Avenue, was preliminary cited on two counts of allowing a minor to loiter after a man brought his 8 and 10 year old children into the store and was not told to leave.

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

All respondents are to be presumed not liable until, and unless the plaintiff can prove by preponderance of the evidence the respondent's liability in an administrative hearing.